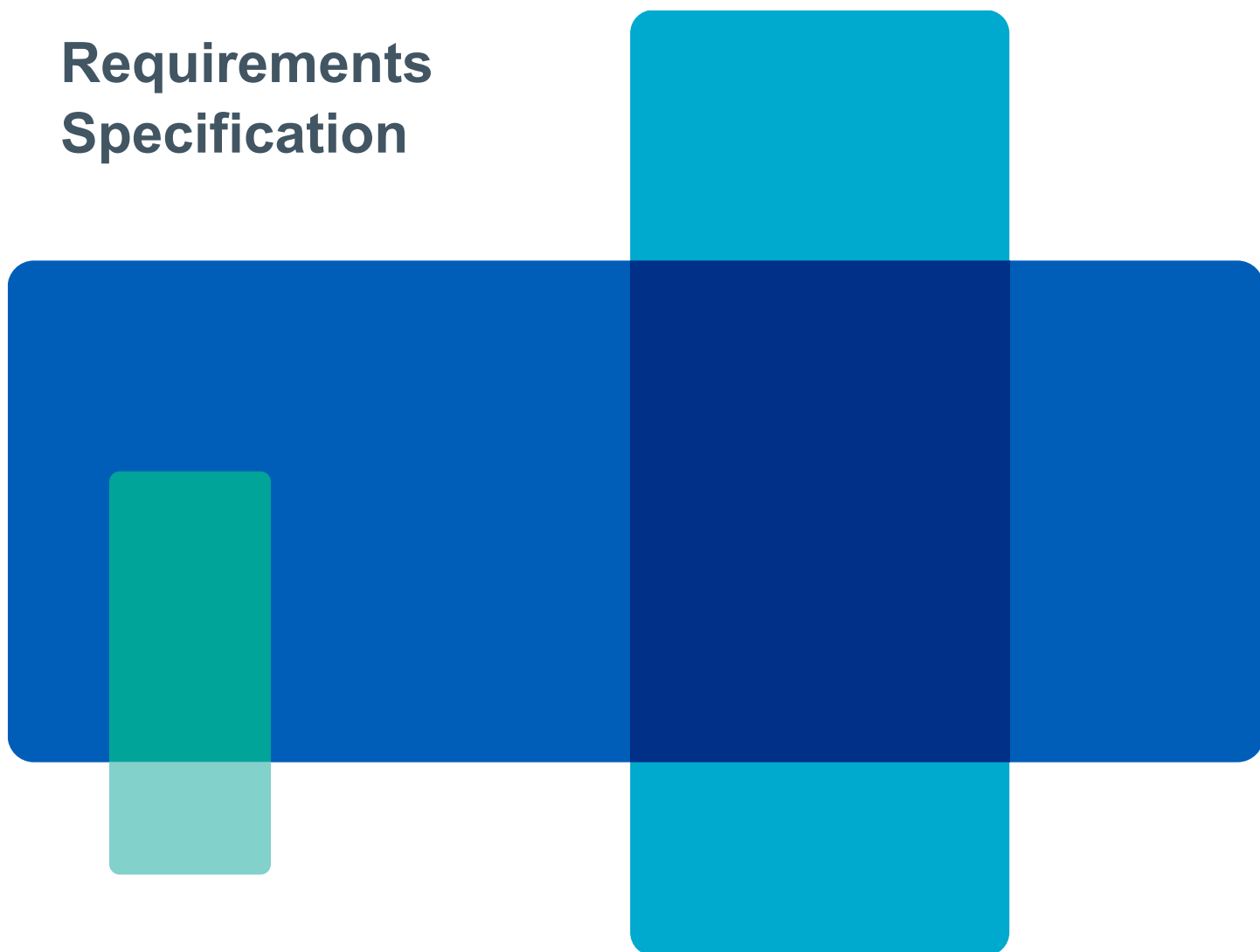


DAPB2026 Amd 58/2025 Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Enhanced Dataset

**Requirements
Specification**



Data Alliance Partnership Board

The Data Alliance Partnership Board (DAPB), which holds delegated authority from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, has approved a change to an existing information standard for publication under [section 250 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012](#).

Assurance that this information standard meets the requirements of the Act and is appropriate for the use specified in the specification document has been provided by the Data Governance, Assurance and Testing (DGAT) team and endorsed by the Data Assurance Board (DAB).

This information standard comprises the following documents:

- Change Specification
- Implementation Guidance
- **Requirements Specification (this document)**
- Technical Output Specification

An Information Standards Notice (DAPB2026 Amd 58/2025) has been issued as a notification of use and implementation timescales. Please read this alongside the documents for the standard.

The controlled copies of these documents can be found on the [NHS England website](#). Any copies held outside of that area, in whatever format (e.g. paper, email attachment), are considered to have passed out of control and should be checked for currency and validity.

Date of publication: 2 June 2026



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Document management

Revision History

Version	Date	Summary of Changes
0.1	02/04/2026	Initial draft based on new template for review by SMEs.
1.0	14/04/2026	Final version produced for publication.

Reviewers

This document must be reviewed by the following people:

Reviewer name	Title / Responsibility	Date	Version
Walt Treloar	Lead Analyst	07/04/2026	0.1
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Nigel Southwell		Senior Manager, DGAT	14/04/2026	1.0

Glossary of Terms

Term / Abbreviation	What it stands for
API	Application Programming Interface
CAG	Confidentiality Advisory Group (an independent body that provides advice on the use of confidential patient information)
CAP	Clinical Audit Platform (the system used to collect the data from submitters)
CSDS	Community Services Dataset
CTV3	Clinical Terms Version 3 (an older clinical coding system previously used in primary care)
CSV	Comma Separated Values
DAB	Data Assurance Board
DAPB	Data Alliance Partnership Board (the current body that approves information standards)
DGAT	Data Governance, Assurance and Testing
DHSC	Department of Health and Social Care
DPIA	Data Privacy Impact Assessment (a process to identify and minimise the data protection risks of a project)
DPN	Data Provision Notice
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GP	General Practitioner
HSCIC	Health and Social Care Information Centre (now known as NHS England)
ISN	Information Standards Notice
JSON	JavaScript Object Notation (A lightweight data-interchange format)
MHSDS	Mental Health Services Dataset
MP	Member of Parliament
MSDS	Maternity Services Dataset

Term / Abbreviation	What it stands for
NHS	National Health Service
NHSE	NHS England
ODS Code	Organisation Data Service Code (unique identifying codes for NHS organizations)
OPCS	Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (specifically refers to OPCS-4, the classification of interventions and procedures used in hospitals)
PIR	Post-Implementation Review
Red Book	Personal Child Health Record (a national standard health record given to parents/carers at a child's birth)
Refset	Reference Set (a collection of clinical codes used for a specific purpose)
SCCI	Standardisation Committee for Care Information
SNOMED CT	Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine – Clinical Terms (the global standard for clinical terminology)

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1. Overview or Definition

The [DAPB2026: Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\) Enhanced Dataset](#) is a mandatory information standard in England that requires healthcare providers to record and report data whenever FGM is identified or treated within the NHS.

It established a central repository for patient-level FGM data, moving from collecting aggregate counts to a more "enhanced" dataset that includes detailed, individual-level information. This includes information on the type of FGM, the age at which it was performed (if known), and the country of origin – see [FGM ED Technical Output Specification \(version 1.5\)](#) for further details.

The original standard was developed to support the Department of Health and Social Care's (DHSC) [FGM Prevention Programme](#) by presenting a greater understanding of the extent and issue of FGM identified by the NHS in England. Although the funding for the FGM Prevention Programme stopped in 2018, DHSC still commission the FGM ED. The anonymised FGM ED data is used to produce information that helps to:

- Improve how the NHS supports women and girls who have had or who are at risk of FGM.
- Plan the local NHS services needed both now and in the future.
- Help other organisations to develop plans to stop FGM happening in local communities and improve multi-agency working.

In 2024 a consultation was carried out on the Female Genital Mutilation Enhanced Dataset (FGMED) to ensure it remains fit for purpose and reduces the administrative burden on clinicians while maintaining data quality. The results and recommendations are available [here](#). The updated standard followed a phased implementation schedule:

- **April, 2026:** The standard was updated and key supporting documents published
- **October 1, 2026:** Submission of revised dataset starts for all Acute Trusts, Mental Health Trusts and GP practices
- **Ongoing:** Data is published in quarterly and annual reports at [Female Genital Mutilation - NHS England Digital](#).

2. Background

The development of DAPB2026 was driven by a critical need for high-quality, granular data to support the safeguarding of women and girls and to improve NHS clinical services. In particular:

- To provide patient-level data, allowing the NHS to understand not just that FGM occurred, but the specific types, the demographics of those affected, and the clinical outcomes.
- To identify geographical "hotspots" and allocate resources for specialist clinics and support services.
- To provide the clinical coding framework necessary to record FGM accurately in medical records.

The standard was developed through a multi-agency collaboration to ensure clinical, legal, and technical accuracy:

- The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) is the sponsoring body.
- NHS England is responsible for the technical specification, data dictionary definitions, and the data collection system.
- The standard was formally governed and approved by the Standardisation Committee for Care Information (SCCI), which has since been succeeded by the Data Alliance Partnership Board (DAPB).
- Development involved consultation with the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) and the Royal College of Midwives (RCM) for clinical input.

DAPB2026 is related to other standards as follows:

- It directly replaces the Female Genital Mutilation Prevalence Dataset (ISB 1610). Organisations compliant with the old standard were mandated to transition to DAPB2026 to remain compliant with national policy.
- The standard is mapped directly to the SNOMED CT UK Edition. It mandates the use of specific clinical terms to ensure that FGM data recorded in a GP surgery is semantically identical to data recorded in an Acute Trust.
- All data items (such as "FGM Type Code" or "Identification Method") are defined in accordance with the [NHS Data Model and Dictionary](#), ensuring consistency with other national datasets like the Maternity Services Data Set (MSDS). *Note: Some definitions in the NHS Data Dictionary are now out of date. Updates will be made during the 2026/27 financial year as part of a full assurance process.*
- It supports the Female Genital Mutilation Information Sharing (FGM-IS) system, a separate technical solution on the Spine that allows clinicians to see if a child has a family history of FGM, thereby facilitating proactive safeguarding.

3. Scope

The standard applies to all **NHS-funded providers in England**. Specifically, the following groups must record and submit FGM data to CAP:

- **Acute Hospital Trusts:** Includes all foundation and non-foundation trusts (e.g., maternity services, A&E, and surgical units).
- **GP Practices:** Mandatory since October 2015 for all general practitioners when FGM is identified during routine care.
- **Mental Health Trusts:** Mandatory since October 2015, recognising that FGM can have significant psychological impacts that may be identified during mental health assessments.

Certain healthcare settings and scenarios are explicitly excluded from the requirement to submit data to the [DAPB2026](#) central dataset:

- **Sexual Health & GUM Clinics:** Genitourinary Medicine (GUM) and sexual health clinics are **excluded**. This is to protect the principle of anonymity in these settings, as patients often attend without providing full personal identifiable information (which is required for the "Enhanced" dataset to prevent double counting).
- **Community Health Trusts:** These are generally considered out of scope for the central data return, though they are still expected to follow local safeguarding protocols.

4. Related/Supporting information

The standard was developed as a reliable way to measure the scale of FGM in England. Before 2015, estimates of FGM prevalence were based on [academic projections](#) rather than actual clinical encounters. At the [2014 Girl Summit](#), the UK government committed to "eradicating FGM within a generation." DAPB2026 was the specific mechanism designed to track progress toward that goal.

The responsibility for the development of the standard is shared by DHSC and NHS England (NHSE):

- DHSC set the original policy requirements and funded the [FGM Prevention Programme](#). Note: although the funding for the FGM Prevention Programme stopped in 2018, DHSC still commission the FGM ED.
- NHSE ensures that the standard aligns with clinical workflows and is also responsible for CAP, the secure portal where FGM data is submitted.

DAPB2026 is related to several other legal and clinical requirements:

Standard/Law	Relationship to DAPB2026
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Serious Crime Act 2015	While DAPB2026 is for statistical and commissioning data, this Act creates a legal duty for clinicians to report FGM in under-18s directly to the Police.
Female Genital Mutilation - Information Sharing	This is a separate clinical "flag" on a girl's electronic record (the Spine). While DAPB2026 is for reporting what happened, FGM-IS is for sharing risk information between clinicians.
ISB 1552 (Maternity Events)	DAPB2026 links with maternity data standards to ensure that when a mother with FGM is identified during pregnancy, it triggers a specific pathway for the newborn.
DCB0129 / DCB0160	These are clinical safety standards that ensure the IT systems used to collect DAPB2026 data don't inadvertently cause patient harm (e.g., through data entry errors).

Official resources, technical documents, and policy guidance are shown below:

- **[NHS England: FGM Statistical Publication Series](#)**: The central hub for all quarterly and annual reports.
- **[DAPB2026 Requirements Specification](#)**: This page contains the PDF downloads for the Data Set Specification and the Clinical Guidance.
- **[FGM Enhanced Dataset Consultation \(2024\)](#)**: Information on the recent review to ensure the dataset remains fit for purpose and reduces clinical burden.
- **[NHS Data Model and Dictionary](#)**: The definitive source of standard data definitions and structures used across the health and care sector in England to ensure that information is recorded and shared consistently between different systems and organisations. Note: some definitions in the NHS Data Dictionary are now out of date. Updates will be made during the 2026/27 financial year as part of a full assurance process.
- **[NHS FGM Pocket Guide for Professionals](#)**: A quick-reference PDF on how to identify FGM and follow the correct reporting pathways.

- **Learning Hub - Home**: Free training sessions for NHS staff covering legal issues, communication skills, and clinical management will be published in June 2026 and can be accessed through the NHS Learning Hub.
- **FGM Health Passport**: A "Statement Opposing FGM" that patients can take abroad to explain the UK law and the health risks.
- **Multi-agency Statutory Guidance on FGM**: The core government document outlining the roles of health, police, and social care.
- **FGM Mandatory Reporting Duty (Police)**: Specific guidance on the separate duty to report cases in under-18s to the police.
- **Female Genital Mutilation - Information Sharing (FGM-IS)**: Technical and operational guidance for healthcare professional on how to use FGM-IS (a national NHS IT system designed to support the safeguarding of girls under 18 with a family history of FGM).

5. Benefits

The benefits of these changes are:

- Fewer data items to collate and submit, reducing burden on data providers.
- Improved training and guidance in collecting the information from patients leading to improved patient experience for women affected by FGM.
- Improved data quality will lead to improved service provision and support services for FGM patients, leading to better health and wellbeing of those patients and potentially reducing the need for health appointments related to FGM.
- Inform policy development and prevention activities to stop girls becoming victims of FGM in the first place so the physical and mental health impacts of FGM will be prevented or reduced.

6. Requirements by user group

“Organisations” covers all Acute hospital Trusts, Mental Health Trusts and GP practices.

Organisations MUST...

- Submit their FGM data to NHSE’s Clinical Audit Platform (CAP). Reporting is quarterly and organisations have a month to submit their data before the extract for the report is taken.

Data Collection Period	Submission Deadline	Provisional Publication Date
January to March	30-Apr	June
April to June	31-Jul	September
July to September	31-Oct	December
October to December	31-Jan	March

- Include a valid NHS Number for every patient record to ensure unique identification and de-duplication.
- Record all FGM-related clinical data using the specific SNOMED CT terminology codes defined in the standard.
- Collect mandatory data items as detailed in the [Technical Output Specification](#).
- Follow the Data Provision Notice (DPN) issued under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Organisations SHOULD...

- Ensure that when FGM is identified in secondary care, the information is communicated to the GP to be recorded in the primary care record.
- Build the DAPB2026 data fields directly into clinical electronic systems to support "capture once, use many times."
- Review data for accuracy and completeness prior to submission to minimise rejections from the national portal.
- Act upon the annual Data Quality (DQ) reports provided by NHSE to correct data errors.
- Ensure local "Fair Processing" or Privacy Notices inform patients that FGM data is being shared for mandatory national monitoring.

Organisations MAY...

- Develop local scripts or queries to automatically extract data from clinical electronic systems to reduce manual data entry.
- Designate a specific "FGM Data Lead" or "Safeguarding Information Lead" to coordinate between clinical teams and informatics.
- Use additional SNOMED codes for local clinical detail, provided they do not conflict with or replace the mandatory national subset.
- Use the e-Learning for Healthcare (e-LfH) modules to train staff on the sensitivities and technicalities of FGM data collection.

7. Conformance

#	Conformance criteria
1.	Evidence of a Local Implementation Plan and a completed impact assessment identifying required changes to clinical systems.
2.	Confirmation from the Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO) that Implementation Guidance has been reviewed and used to configure local clinical templates.
3.	System audit showing that the SNOMED CT subset defined in the specification is active and being used by clinicians to record FGM types and methods.
4.	Organisation has registered to submit FGM data to NHSE's Clinical Audit Platform (CAP) and has authorised submitters assigned.
5.	Evidence of updated Privacy Notices or patient leaflets that explicitly mention the statutory requirement to share FGM data with NHSE.

8. Timescales/plan

The updated standard followed a phased implementation schedule:

- **April, 2026:** The standard was updated and key supporting documents published
- **October 1, 2026:** Submission of revised dataset starts for all Acute Trusts, Mental Health Trusts and GP practices
- **Ongoing:** Data is published in quarterly and annual reports.

9. Legal position

The legal standing of the standard (introduced by legislation other than section 250 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012) is defined as follows:

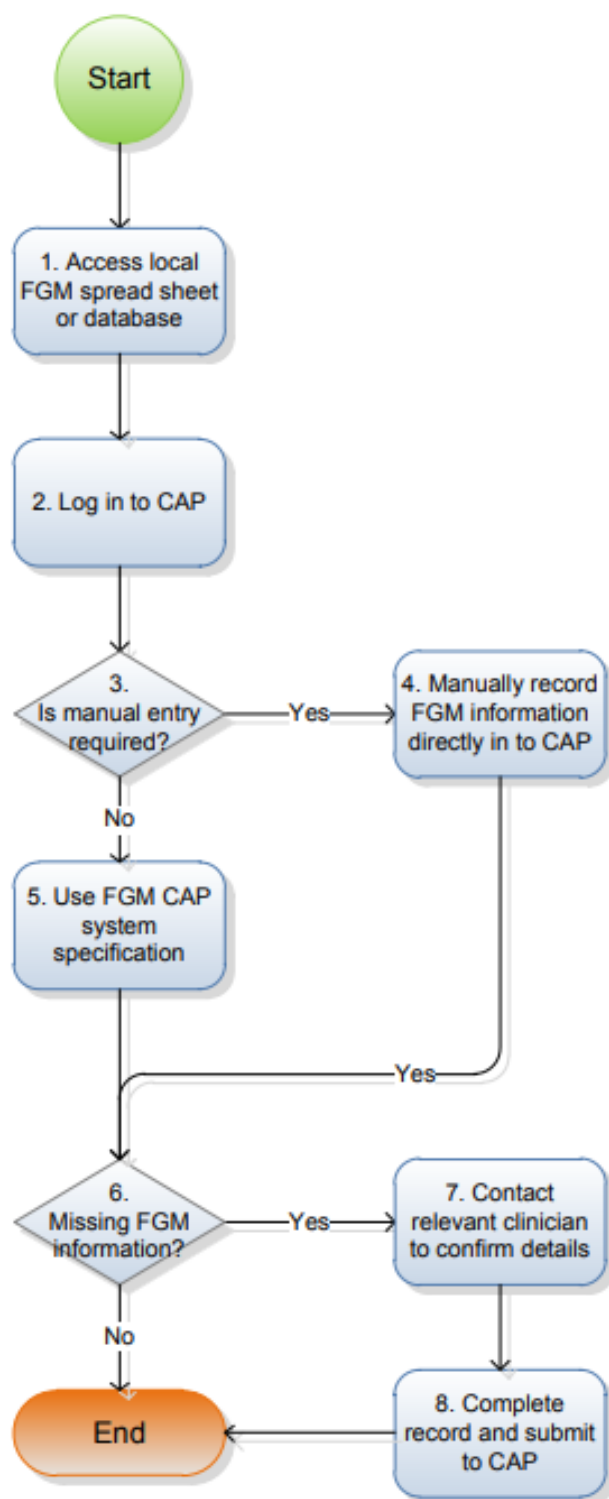
- Section 259 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012: Under this section, NHSE has been [Directed](#) by the Secretary of State for Health to collect this data. When such a "Direction" is in place, organisations in scope have a legal duty to comply with the resulting Data Provision Notice (DPN).
- The FGM Mandatory Reporting Duty: Introduced via the Serious Crime Act 2015 (amending the Children Act 1989), this creates a separate legal requirement for regulated health professionals to report known cases of FGM in girls under 18 to the police. DAPB2026 provides the technical framework (SNOMED CT codes) to ensure these clinical encounters are recorded in a way that supports this legal duty.

- Health and Social Care (Safety and Quality) Act 2015: This reinforces the duty to share information for individual care and for the purposes of safeguarding, which the FGM Enhanced Dataset facilitates by ensuring a consistent record exists across the NHS.

The following contractual requirements make implementation of the standard mandatory:

- The NHS Standard Contract: Compliance with all Board-approved Information Standards (including DAPB2026) is a general condition of the NHS Standard Contract. Specifically, Service Condition 23 (SC23) requires providers to comply with all applicable Information Standards Notices (ISNs). Failure to implement the standard is a breach of contract.
- [Data Provision Notice \(DPN\)](#): Once an ISN is published, NHSE issues a DPN. Under the 2012 Act, all providers of NHS-funded care are contractually and legally required to submit the data requested in a DPN.
- CQC Regulation: The Care Quality Commission (CQC) considers compliance with national information standards as part of their assessment of whether a provider is "Well-Led."

10. Data flow diagram



11. Data set

A data set specification including details of data items and definitions is provided in the [Technical Output Specification](#).

12. Helpdesk/contacts

Contact Group	Responsibility	Contact Details
National Service Desk	Technical issues, CAP login problems, and password resets.	Email: ssd.nationalservicedesk@nhs.net (with subject line: "FGM CAP") Phone: 0300 303 5035
FGM Data Team	Queries regarding data definitions and reporting frequency.	Email: ssd.nationalservicedesk@nhs.net (with subject line: "FGM Data")
Data Collections Team	Guidance on the Data Provision Notice (DPN) and legal mandatory requirements.	Email: enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk (with subject line: "FGM Collection")

13. Appendix

Link Text / Reference	Full Web Address (URL)
section 250 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012	http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/7/section/250
NHS England website	https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/information-standards/governance/latest-activity/standards-and-collections/scci2026-female-genital-mutilation-enhanced-dataset
http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/	http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/
DAPB2026: Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Enhanced Dataset	https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/information-standards/governance/latest-activity/standards-and-collections/scci2026-female-genital-mutilation-enhanced-dataset
FGM ED Technical Output Specification (version 1.5)	https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/information-standards/governance/latest-activity/standards-and-collections/scci2026-female-genital-mutilation-enhanced-dataset
FGM Prevention Programme	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/461524/FGM_Statement_September_2015.pdf
here	https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/clinical-audits-and-registries/female-genital-mutilation-datasets/female-genital-mutilation-fgm-enhanced-dataset-overview-of-2024-consultation/fgm-consultation-response-2024
Female Genital Mutilation - NHS England Digital	https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/female-genital-mutilation
NHS Data Model and Dictionary	https://www.datadictionary.nhs.uk/data_sets/clinical_data_sets/female_genital_mutilation_data_set.html

academic projections	https://ukdataservice.ac.uk/case-study/prevalence-of-female-genital-mutilation-in-england-and-wales-national-and-local-estimates/
2014 Girl Summit	https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/girl-summit-2014
FGM Prevention Programme	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a807f4a40f0b62305b8b7eb/FGM_Statement_September_2015.pdf
Serious Crime Act 2015	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/9/section/74/enacted
Female Genital Mutilation - Information Sharing	https://digital.nhs.uk/services/female-genital-mutilation-information-sharing
ISB 1552 (Maternity Events)	https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-sets/maternity-services-data-set
DCB0129 / DCB0160	https://digital.nhs.uk/services/clinical-safety/clinical-risk-management-standards
NHS England: FGM Statistical Publication Series	https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/female-genital-mutilation
DAPB2026 Requirements Specification	https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/information-standards/governance/latest-activity/standards-and-collections/scci2026-female-genital-mutilation-enhanced-dataset
FGM Enhanced Dataset Consultation (2024)	https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/clinical-audits-and-registries/female-genital-mutilation-datasets
NHS FGM Pocket Guide for Professionals	https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/fgm-pocket-guide-v5-final.pdf
Learning Hub - Home	https://learninghub.nhs.uk/
FGM Health Passport	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/statement-opposing-female-genital-mutilation

Multi-agency Statutory Guidance on FGM	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multi-agency-statutory-guidance-on-female-genital-mutilation
FGM Mandatory Reporting Duty (Police)	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mandatory-reporting-of-female-genital-mutilation-procedural-information
Female Genital Mutilation - Information Sharing (FGM-IS)	https://digital.nhs.uk/services/female-genital-mutilation-information-sharing
Directed	https://digital.nhs.uk/about-nhs-digital/corporate-information-and-documents/directions-and-data-provision-notices/secretary-of-state-directions/female-genital-mutilation-fgm-directions-2015
Data Provision Notice (DPN)	https://digital.nhs.uk/about-nhs-digital/corporate-information-and-documents/directions-and-data-provision-notices/data-provision-notices-dpns/female-genital-mutilation-fgm-enhanced-dataset-data-provision-notice